

MAGNA CELEBRATES GRAND OPENING OF NEW PLANT IN UK PRODUCING LIGHTWEIGHT LIFTGATES

- Plant producing liftgate modules for new Nissan Qashqai
- Thermoplastic liftgates provide weight savings, greater design flexibility
- New facility brought 280 jobs to Sunderland, England

AURORA, Ontario, August 26, 2021 — Magna continues to develop innovative, lightweight process and product solutions to help its automaker customers meet increasingly stringent emissions and fuel economy goals. This is evidenced by the start of production at Magna's new Sunderland, England plant, which recently celebrated its grand opening and is producing lightweight, thermoplastic liftgate modules for the third generation Nissan Qashqai. Magna's investment in the state-of-the-art greenfield facility features several advanced manufacturing technologies, such as robotic adhesive bonding cells, advanced vision systems and ultrasonic leak testing. The plant currently employs 280 people.

The thermoplastic liftgate on the new Qashqai is lighter than its steel predecessor, reflecting a growing trend among automakers looking to reduce mass to help improve fuel economy and lower emissions. [Thermoplastic materials](#) enable deeper draws, complex geometries and tighter radii, resulting in greater styling and design freedom thus helping automakers distinguish their brands.



Qashqai liftgate module at Nissan Motor's Manufacturing plant in Sunderland, UK

“The market is transitioning to more lightweight, thermoplastic liftgates, and we are excited to support that effort,” said Magna Exteriors President Grahame Burrow. “As consumers continue to embrace SUVs, CUVs and other vehicles with liftgates, we see adoption of these modules increasing year over year, giving us more opportunity to further invest and take advantage of this high-growth, sustainable product line.”

Magna will deliver the liftgates for final vehicle assembly to Nissan's neighboring assembly plant. A market leader in lightweight, thermoplastic liftgates, Magna also manufactures them for the Qashqai's sister platform in North America, the 2022 Nissan Rogue.

TAGS

Thermoplastic liftgates, sustainability, Qashqai

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ABOUT MAGNA

Magna is more than one of the world's largest suppliers in the automotive space. We are a mobility technology company with a global, entrepreneurial-minded team of 158,000 employees and an organizational structure designed to innovate like a startup. With 60+ years of expertise, and a systems approach to design, engineering and manufacturing that touches nearly every aspect of the vehicle, we are positioned to support advancing mobility in a transforming industry. Our global network includes 347 manufacturing operations and 87 product development, engineering and sales centres spanning 28 countries.

For further information about Magna (NYSE:MGA; TSX:MG), please visit www.magna.com or follow us on Twitter @MagnaInt.

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